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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/497,373	02/03/2000	Amir Alon	22930-06086	7420

758 7590 08/24/2004

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EXAMINER

AKERS, GEOFFREY R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3625

DATE MAILED: 08/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/497,373	ALON ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Geoffrey Akers	3625	<i>MM</i>

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4,6,8-19,21-23,25,27-39,56-61,64-77 and 80-92 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4,6,8-19,21-23,25,27-39,56-61,64-77,80-92 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Request for Continued Examination(RCE)***

1. This action is issued in reply to applicant's Request for Continued Examination(RCE) filed 7/19/04.
2. Claims 3,6,18,25,34,74,82,90 92 were amended. None were added. Claims 1,5,7,20,24,26,40-55, 62-63,78-79 had been cancelled.
3. Claims 2-4,6,8-19,21-23,25,27-39,56-61,64-77,80-92 are pending.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. Claims 2-4,6,13-15,17-19,21-23,25,74-77,82-84,86-88,91 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pallakoff(US Pat. No: 6,269,343) and further in view of Ruehl(US Pat. No: 5,873,069).The rejection as cited in the Final Office Action is maintained.
5. Claims 8-12,16,27-36,39,56-59,64-73,85,90,92 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Pallakoff(US Pat. No: 6,269,343) in view of Shkedy(US Pat. No: 6,260,024). The rejection as cited in the Final Office Action is maintained.

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***Response to Arguments***

6. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are not persuasive. In response to applicant's Remarks Reuhl teaches automatic updating functions for prices(col 1 lines 6-15) for a plurality of goods and services(col 3 lines 5-28). Since there is a plurality of goods there is a plurality of buyers. Reuhl thus teaches identified claim modifications. Pallakoff teaches demand aggregation (Abstract)(col 1 lines 51-66) and quantity pricing(col 1 lines 40-60). Buyers could be members of a buying cooperative in this

Art Unit: 3625

system. Shkedy teaches global buyer driven purchase orders on a commercial network(Abstract) and collective purchasing(Abstract). Shkedy also teaches corporations buying(col 28 lines 27-28) which is a collection of employees.

**Conclusion**

**7. THIS ACTION IS MADE NON-FINAL.**

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8. Any questions concerning this communication should be addressed to the examiner of record, Dr. Geoffrey Akers, P.E., who can be reached between 6:30 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday at 703-306-5844. If attempts to contact the primary examiner are unsuccessful, the primary examiner's superior, Mr. Vincent Millin, SPE, may be telephoned at (703)-308-1065.

The fax number for Formal or Official faxes and Draft or Informal faxes to Technology Center 3600 or this Art Unit is (703)-308-3687. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-308-1113.

GRA

August 21, 2004

DR. GEOFFREY R. AKERS, P.E.  
PRIMARY EXAMINER